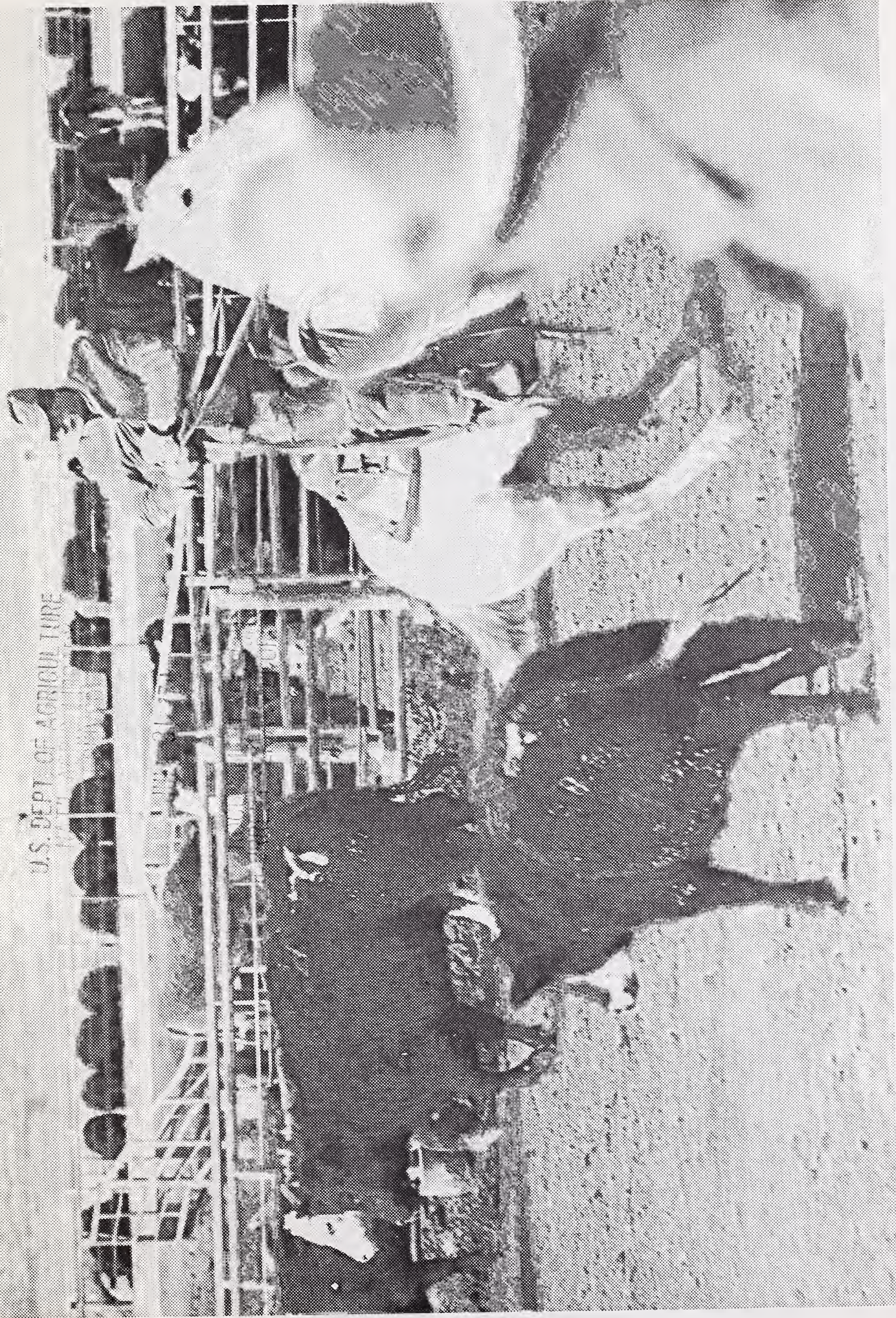


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U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE



CATTLE SCABIES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE • PICTURE STORY 261 • NOVEMBER 1972

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COVER: ROUND UP -- Livestock inspectors spend hours at feedlots, ranches and pastures looking for signs of cattle scabies. If scabies mites are found the round up begins. In many cases this means dipping hundreds of infected and or exposed cattle. (172A89-17).



CLASSIC CASE-- This Hereford has literally been "tearing his hair out" trying to relieve the irritation caused by scabies mites. The classic and costly signs of scabies show on the top of this animal's shoulder (172A91-9).

The worst outbreak of psoroptic cattle scabies in thirty years hit ranchers in the Texas Panhandle, western Oklahoma and New Mexico during the winter of 1972.

State and Federal livestock inspectors have been finding cattle scabies mites on high plains cattle this past summer.



SCABIES PATROL -- Livestock inspectors are continually on the lookout for signs of scabies. The surest way to confirm the presence of scabies mites is to scrape the animal's hide. Samples collected sometimes take warming up to make the mites active enough to see with a magnifier (172A98-21).

EVERYONE'S FIGHT -- Cattlemen have banded together and, with the advice of APHIS officials, have built community dipping vats to fight cattle scabies. These concerned men take this fight seriously and the

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State and Federal livestock inspectors have been finding cattle scabies mites on high plains cattle this past summer. Now, with the arrival of cold weather, they're putting on heavy clothes and getting ready to chase the elusive mites despite possible winter snows.

Scabies mites thrive under the winter coats of infected cattle. More mites mean more itching--and it's hard to fatten a steer whose mind is on scratching.

Meat quality and wholesomeness are unaffected by scabies, but supermarket prices reflect what scabies can do to a cattleman's feed bill. That's why the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and State inspectors and veterinarians have been working to eradicate cattle scabies in the Southwest.

These men proved that scabies can be found any time of the year. Last summer saw a concerted effort to detect the mite in hot weather and now the eradication effort is moving into its winter phase once again, in a continuing effort to combat this pest.



DIPPING DOES IT -- Two dippings in toxaphene at 10 - to 14 - day intervals is recommended for treatment of scabies. All cattle treated with toxaphene must be withheld from slaughter for at least 28 days to make certain that residues have dropped to a safe level. Only dipping will eradicate one of the beef industry's most persistent pests (172A98-10).



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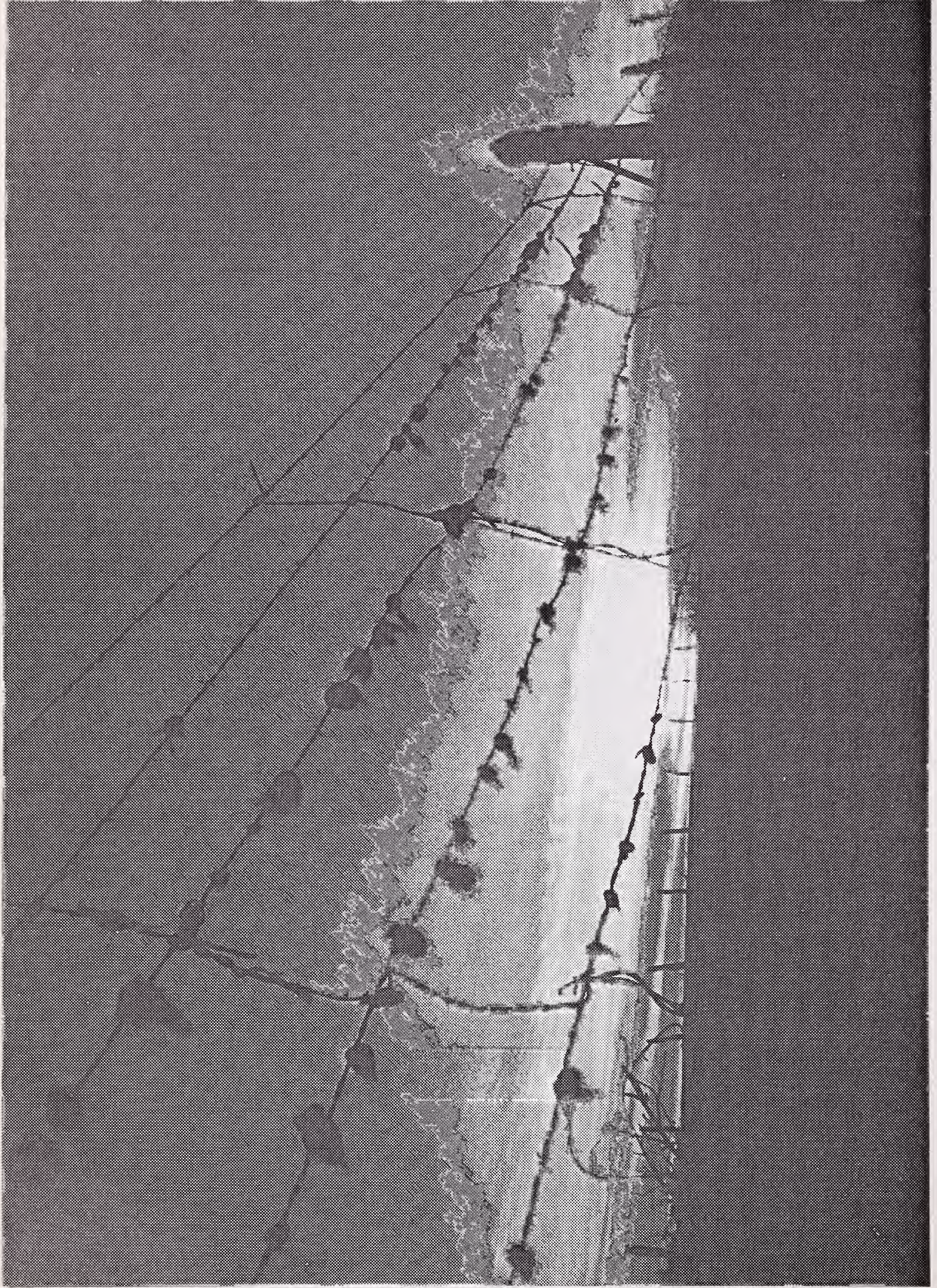
EVERYONE'S FIGHT -- Cattlemen have banded together and, with the advice of APHIS officials, have built community dipping vats to fight cattle scabies. These concerned men take this fight seriously and the time and money they have put into these vats can mean more profits to owners at market time (172A97-18).



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION -- An APHIS environmental quality officer must oversee dipping operations to control the strength of the toxaphene solution. These officers make sure that there is a safe disposal system near the dipping area, such as this sump, so the solution will evaporate (172A90-29).



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SUNSET SIGNS -- Ranchers are helping State and Federal livestock inspectors look for signs of cattle scabies -- such as this hair left on a barbed wire fence by some steer scratching his scaly hide(172A94-4).